



**TESTIMONY TO THE SENATE EDUCATION, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
SB 528 – Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022**

POSITION: SUPPORT

BY: Nancy Soreng, President

DATE: February 15, 2022

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan organization that works to increase understanding of major public policy issues and influence public policy through education and advocacy. Action on climate change is based on the League's position to support comprehensive legislation to control climate change, and support for predominant reliance on renewable resources. We are at a critical point that will determine the course of our future forever.

This comprehensive bill ensures Maryland will be part of the new green future by:

- Ensuring Maryland is in line with the current climate science by committing us to a 60% reduction in carbon emissions below 2006 levels by 2030 and to reaching net zero emissions by 2045,
- Calling on the Commission on Environmental Justice and Sustainable Communities to determine the percentage of state funds spent on climate change that must go to environmental justice communities,
- Creation of the Just Transition Employment & Retraining Working Group to protect impacted workers, and
- Providing several mitigation policies.

In Maryland we have a lot at stake, with nuisance flooding, high heat days and storm surges already regular occurrences. There is no more time to delay on meaningful climate action.

The League of Women Voters Maryland encourages a FAVORABLE report for this essential legislation.